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STAINES URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

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ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

and

Chief Public Health Inspector



1964



STAINES URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

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STAINES URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Public Health Committee

Chairman : Councillor T. R. Simmons

Vice-Chairman : Councillor J. Caiger

Councillors Grace, Hemsley, Justice, Pett, Proops, Mrs. Ramsden,
Mrs. Shinn, Thomas and Willis.

Staff of the Public Health Department

Medical Officer of Health (part-time):

L. A. MATHESON, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H., D.C.H.,
Council Offices, Bridge Street, Staines. Tel.: Staines 55955.

Chief Public Health Inspector:

JOHN MULLIN, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I., A.I.HSG.

Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector:

R. I. SHEPHERD, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Public Health Inspectors:

G. A. EVANS, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

G. WALTON, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Assistants for Rodent Control and Clean Air Act:

H. A. CROUCHER.

A. H. FULLER.

Chief Clerk:

Miss L. M. PERRYMAN.

Public Analyst:

D. D. MOIR, M.SC., F.R.I.C.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS of STAINES URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report for the year 1964.

During this year the reorganisation of local government in Greater London began to make clear the ways in which this Urban District Council would be affected. The wish of your Council with that of the adjoining Sunbury Urban District Council to join the County of Surrey and administer the health services under a scheme of delegation as a new Northern Division of that County was agreed. The existing Health and Welfare Area No. 10 of Middlesex County Council would disappear after 1st April 1965, and be replaced by Divisional Health Offices of Surrey County Council. The great advantage of this change should be in a much more personal Health Service, facilitated by the siting of the offices of Health, Welfare, Children's Department, Probation and the Registrar of Births, Marriages and Deaths under one roof. Services such as those of the Divisional Social Worker, Home Helps, Midwives and Nurses would also operate directly from this local office, and much closer integration and far less overlapping should result. This new Division, of some 90,000 population, will have an advantage over other existing Surrey divisions in that specially equipped offices for all the County functions are to be in use from the beginning. In accepting that this is most fortunate for this district, a challenge is presented that we must achieve the very best services for the district, second to none in the County that Staines is to enter. Also, as has so often been quoted in these prolonged negotiations, we shall retain all that was best in Middlesex and gladly accept the best that Surrey can offer. The nearby Divisional Education Offices will assist in further integration.

The health of the district has remained good with an outbreak of measles as the only large-scale infectious outbreak towards the end of the year. Sonné dysentery occurred in some 90 children, chiefly in one school where special hygiene measures were put

into operation and rebuilding projects were advised to provide better toilet facilities in the near future.

Public consciousness was alerted by the Aberdeen typhoid outbreak to the importance of food hygiene. Locally, some 234 6-lb. tins of corned beef were withdrawn from sale. Also, a travelling library containing a large number of books was on a sales tour from this area and happened to be in Aberdeen at the time of the outbreak. The firm concerned was most co-operative and accepted the preventive recommendations given to them.

There was, regrettably, one maternal death due to a post-operative misadventure in hospital.

My grateful thanks are due to the Council for all their help and encouragement and for their courtesy in allowing me to pay a visit to Persia in order to study and lecture in Public Health. This proved to be most interesting. Also I wish to express my appreciation of the loyalty of the Public Health Department team, especially to Mr. J. Mullin, Chief Public Health Inspector, and to Miss L. M. Perryman, whose services as chief clerk are invaluable.

Your obedient servant,

L. A. MATHESON.

Provision of Hospitals and Clinics

Hospitals:

Ashford Hospital, London Road, Ashford.

Staines Hospital, Kingston Road, Staines.

Chest Clinic:

Chest Clinic, Ashford Hospital, London Road, Ashford.

Maternity and Child Welfare Clinics, etc.:

These are provided by the Middlesex County Council at the following addresses:

“The Grange,” Gresham Road, Staines.

The Health Centre, Stanwell Road, Ashford.

Stanwell Clinic, Hadrian Way, Stanwell.

A mobile clinic is also available.

Summary of Statistics

Area — 8,271 acres.

Population (Estimated mid-1964)	...	...	...	53,240
Number of Houses, Bungalows and Flats at 1.4.64				15,784
Rateable Value at 1.4.64	...	...	...	£3,010,038
Sum represented by a penny rate at 1st April, 1964				£11,930

Summary of Vital Statistics

<i>Live Births</i>				<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Legitimate	...	...	...	487	496	983
Illegitimate	...	...	...	23	25	48
				<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
				510	521	1,031
				<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
<i>Live Birth Rate</i> (per thousand population)				...	...	19.36
Comparability factor is 0.89 giving adjusted birth rate of				...	...	17.23
Birth Rate England and Wales				...	...	18.4
Illegitimate live births per cent of total live birth				...	...	4.65
<i>Still Births</i>				<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Legitimate	...	...	...	7	10	17
Illegitimate	...	...	...	—	2	2
<i>Still Birth Rate</i> per 1,000 Live and Still Births				...	...	18.1
Still Birth Rate England and Wales				...	...	16.4
<i>Total Live and Still Births</i>				...	...	1,050
<i>Deaths</i>				Male	...	...
				Female	...	...
				228		
				216		
				<hr/>		
				444		
				<hr/>		
<i>Death Rate</i> (per thousand population)				...	...	8.34
Comparability factor is 1.28, giving adjusted death rate of				...	...	10.67
Death Rate England and Wales				...	...	11.3
Infant Deaths under one year				...	...	19
Infant Mortality Rate (per thousand live births)				...	...	18.43
Infant Mortality Rate England and Wales				...	...	20.0
Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births				...	...	18.31
Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births				...	...	20.83
Neo-natal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births				...	...	15.52
Early Neo-natal Mortality rate per 1,000 live births				...	...	13.58
Perinatal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live and still births				...	...	31.43
Maternal deaths (including abortion)				...	...	1
Maternal mortality rate per 1,000 live and still births				...	...	0.95

Causes of Death

<i>Disease</i>						<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>
Tuberculosis, respiratory ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
Tuberculosis, other ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
Syphilitic disease ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
Diphtheria ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
Whooping Cough ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
Meningococcal infections ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
Acute poliomyelitis ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
Measles ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
Other infective and parasitic diseases ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	1	—
Malignant neoplasm, stomach ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	1	4
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	32	3
Malignant neoplasm, breast ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	—	9
Malignant neoplasm, uterus ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	—	3
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	35	19
Leukæmia, aleukæmia ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	2	2
Diabetes ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	2	2
Vascular lesions of nervous system ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	17	29
Coronary disease, angina ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	51	38
Hypertension with heart disease ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	1	3
Other heart disease ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	16	29
Other circulatory disease ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	9	17
Influenza ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	1	—
Pneumonia ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	12	9
Bronchitis ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	10	9
Other diseases of respiratory system ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	6	—
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	1	—
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhœa ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	2	2
Nephritis and nephrosis ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	1	2
Hyperplasia of prostate ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	1	—
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	—	1
Congenital malformations ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	2	2
Other defined and ill-defined diseases ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	12	26
Motor vehicle accidents ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	8	2
All other accidents ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	5	4
Suicide ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	—	1
						<hr/> 228 <hr/>	<hr/> 216 <hr/>

INFANT DEATHS

	Under 1 day		1-6 days		1 week		2 weeks		3 weeks		Total under 1 month		1-2 mths.		3-5 mths.		6-8 mths.		9-11 mths.		Totals	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Prematurity	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1
Congenital heart Abnormality	—	1	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1
Other Congenital Abnormalities	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2
Atelectasis	2	2	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	3
Broncho-Pneumonia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—
Hyaline Membrane	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Foetal Asphyxia	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1

4	6	3	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	9	7	1	1	1	—	—	—	11	8
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NOTIFIABLE DISEASES OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS

	Under 1 yr.	1 yr.	2 yrs.	3 yrs.	4 yrs.	5-9 yrs.	10-14 yrs.	15-24 yrs.	25 & over	Total
Scarlet Fever	—	—	—	4	2	12	—	—	—	18
Whooping Cough	3	3	5	2	2	9	2	—	—	26
Acute Polio- myelitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	4	10	11	15	16	14	1	1	—	72

		Under 5 yrs.	5-14 yrs.	15-44 yrs.	45-64 yrs.	65 & over	Total
Acute pneumonia	...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	...	22	47	17	—	—	86
Puerperal pyrexia	...	—	—	1	—	—	1
Food poisoning	...	4	—	—	—	1	5
Meningococcal infection	1	—	—	—	—	—	1

TUBERCULOSIS

		NOTIFICATIONS				DEATHS			
Age Periods		Pulm.		Non-Pulm.		Pulm.		Non-Pulm.	
		M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0— 1	...	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
2— 4	...	3	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
5—14	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15—24	...	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
25—34	...	4	3	—	1	—	—	—	—
35—44	...	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
45—54	...	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
55—64	...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65—74	...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
75—84	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
		12	7	—	3	—	—	—	—
		19		3		—		—	

GENERAL HEALTH MATTERS

Food Poisoning

Five cases of food poisoning were reported. Two cases were not confirmed as food poisoning as a result of bacteriological examination of stool specimens.

The three confirmed cases were unrelated. Persons affected were a 68-year-old man living alone, a 4-year-old boy and a 12-month-old baby. Salmonella was isolated from the stools in each case but it did not prove possible to trace the source of infection. A difficulty in tracing the food responsible in isolated cases such as these is the unavoidable lapse of time between the onset of the illness and the receipt of confirmed reports.

Laundry Service

The free laundry service for incontinent old persons living in their own homes continues to meet a great need. The service was provided under Section 84 of the Public Health Act, 1936 and Section 42 of the Middlesex County Council Act, 1956, and commenced in 1952. The soiled bedding is collected and returned to the homes by a local laundry and the cost is met by the Council. Eighteen persons used the service during 1964 at a cost of £53 10s. 1d.

Establishments for Massage or Special Treatment

Persons carrying on special treatment such as massage and chiropody are required to be registered under the Middlesex County Council Acts. Seven premises were registered.

Sewerage

The district has a modern and adequate system of main drainage. A sewer is to be laid in Moor Lane, Staines, to serve a small number of modern houses at present drained to cesspools.

Treatment of sewage is at the large Mogden Works of the Middlesex County Council.

Refuse Collection and Disposal

Because of the labour situation the Council has difficulty on occasions in maintaining a regular weekly collection of domestic refuse. Disposal continues to be by incineration at the Charlton Plant operated by the Borough of Twickenham and the Urban Districts of Staines and Sunbury.

Water

Practically the whole of the water supply is by the South West Suburban Water Co. 314 dwellings and 107 trade premises in the Colnbrook area are supplied by the Borough of Slough Water Department, and 24 houses in the southern part of the district near Chertsey Bridge by the Woking and District Water Co. The South West Suburban Water Co. takes raw water from the River Thames and the water is pumped direct to mains after rapid filtration and chlorination. The water is satisfactory in quality and quantity, and it is not necessary to impose restrictions on the supply of drinking water. The water has no plumbo-solvent action and it has not been necessary to take any action in respect of any form of contamination. 0.2 parts per million of fluoride are normally present in the water supplied by the South West Suburban and Woking Companies, and 0.5 parts per million in the water supplied by Slough.

The Water Company takes daily bacteriological samples of the treated water going into supply. Samples of the raw river water are taken once per month and additional raw water samples are taken whenever advisable. These samples are examined by an independent laboratory and the reports are available to the Council. Additional samples are taken by the Water Company at intervals for specific purposes, e.g., detection of radio activity.

A copy of a typical report on a sample of water is appended.

Chemical Results in Parts per Million

Appearance: Clear and bright.	Turbidity: Nil
Colour 4	Odour: very faint "chlorinous"
pH 7.6	Free Carbon Dioxide ... 10
Electric Conductivity ... 580	Total Solids 400
Chlorine present	Alkalinity as
as Chloride 36	Calcium Carbonate ... 215
Hardness: Total ... 275	Carbonate 215, Non-carbonate 60
Nitrate Nitrogen ... 5.1	Nitrite Nitrogen: absent
Ammoniacal Nitrogen ... 0.03	Oxygen Absorbed 0.70
Albuminoid Nitrogen ... 0.06	Residual Chlorine 0.04
Metals — Iron, Zinc, Lead: absent. Copper: 0.15.	
Anionic Synthetic Detergents as Manoxol O.T.: less than 0.2	

Bacteriological Results

Number of Colonies devel- oping on Agar	1 day at 37°C. 7 per ml.	2 days at 37°C. 9 per ml.	3 days at 20°C. 4 per ml.
Presumptive Coli-aerogenes Reaction ...	<i>Present in</i> — ml.	<i>Absent from</i> 100 ml.	<i>Probable number</i> 0 per 100 ml.
Bact. coli. (Type 1) ...	— ml.	100 ml.	0 per 100 ml.
Cl. welchii Reaction ...	100 ml.	10 ml.	

This sample is clear and bright in appearance, has a reaction on the alkaline side of neutrality and is free from metals apart from a minute trace of copper. The water is hard in character but its hardness and its content of mineral and saline constituents in solution are not excessive. It is of a high standard of organic quality and bacterial purity.

These results show effective treatment and indicate a pure and wholesome water suitable for public supply purposes. The trace of copper in the sample is likely to be derived from a copper pipe and not to be representative of the supply.

REPORT OF CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

This report endeavours to show by statistics and tabulated statements the various duties carried out by your Public Health Inspectors. In the past twenty years or so these duties have covered an ever-widening field and 1964 saw an increase in the enactment of legislation, the effect of which was to increase the scope and responsibilities of the Department. Some of these duties were new to local government, for example the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963, which came into operation in August 1964, requires the Council to inspect offices and shops to secure the health, welfare and safety provisions of the Act.

The Council became the Food and Drugs authority for the area on April 1st 1964, and with other aspects of food control became responsible for the sampling and analysis of food and drink sold in the area.

Having regard to the increase in work, the Council increased the qualified staff by one inspector, and this was done towards the end of the year. There is a national shortage of qualified Public Health Inspectors and the Council decided to help to overcome this shortage by appointing a pupil.

Progress in making smoke control orders continues, and I anticipate the whole district will be covered by 1970. A fifth Smoke Control Order was confirmed by the Minister of Housing and Local Government to come into operation in 1965, and the Council approved Smoke Control Order No. 6 to come into operation in 1966. Smoke Control Areas have proved acceptable to the public and even more so following the change in 1963 of Government policy on domestic fuels which has meant the introduction of increased grants for a wider range of domestic heating appliances. There have been no objections to any of the Orders, and there can be no doubt that in areas such as Staines great changes in domestic heating are taking place. The making of Smoke Control Orders coincides with this change of attitude and facilitates the change to improved methods of domestic heating.

The majority of unfit houses in this area has now been cleared, but a further survey was made which showed that 70 houses would need detailed inspection to determine whether they should be demolished or whether they could be repaired and improved. In this connection I believe the standard of an unfit house as defined in Section 4 Housing Act 1957 is out of date and should be revised and brought up to a higher standard. The standard could be that of the twelve point standard prescribed for the

payment of discretionary improvement grants by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government.

Such a standard would make it easier for clearance of unfit houses, redevelopment of obsolescent houses, and the improvement of old houses to proceed together.

There are, I believe, old houses which from the aesthetic point of view are not really worth improving. I have in mind the outdated and often inconvenient small terraced houses, but whether the country can afford at present to demolish this type of house is another consideration.

Summary of Inspections

Inspections under Public Health or Housing Acts	...	1,403
Improvement Grants	... ..	221
Rent Act 1957	... ..	68
Overcrowding	... ..	11
Food Premises	... ..	1,928
Food Inspections	... ..	511
Slaughterhouse	... ..	490
Pet Animals Act	... ..	16
Cesspools	... ..	18
Drainage Works	... ..	128
Drain Testing	... ..	15
Factories and Outworkers	... ..	88
Clean Air Act, 1956 (inspections and survey)	... ..	5,929
Rodent Control (inspections and survey)	... ..	2,973
Vermin	... ..	75
Keeping of Animals and Poultry	... ..	30
Infectious Diseases	... ..	189
Offensive Trades	... ..	83
Caravans	... ..	230
Places of Public Entertainment	... ..	31
Shops Act	... ..	125
Hawkers	... ..	51
Public Conveniences	... ..	46
Schools	... ..	16
Pollution of Streams	... ..	10
Deposit of Refuse (M.C.C. Acts)	... ..	267
Hairdressers	... ..	22
Laundry Service (Incontinent Persons)	... ..	201
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act 1963	... ..	41
Miscellaneous	... ..	486
		<hr/>
		15,702
		<hr/>

Number of Notices Served

					<i>Informal</i>	<i>Formal</i>
Housing Act 1957, Section 9	...	...			—	—
Housing Act 1957, Overcrowding	...	...			—	—
Public Health Act 1936	...	...	...		117	24
Food and Drugs Act 1955	...	...	...		59	—
Factories Act 1937	...	...	...	...	14	—
Pests Act 1949	...	...	...	...	—	—
Shops Act 1950	...	...	...	...	1	—
Clean Air Act 1956	...	...	...	...	—	2
					<hr/> 191	<hr/> 26

Housing Statistics

Number of dwelling houses inspected under Public Health or Housing Acts	...	...	...	...	...	1,263
Unfit houses made fit and houses in which defects were remedied:—						
After informal action	...	...	...	...	...	84
After formal notice under						
(a) Public Health Acts—						
by owner	...	...	...	...	...	26
by local authority	...	...	...	...	...	—
(b) Housing Act, 1957, S.9—						
by owner	...	...	...	...	...	—
by local authority	...	...	...	...	...	—
Unfit houses closed or demolished during 1964						
Houses subject to Demolition Orders	...	...	...	...	...	9
Houses included in Clearance Areas	...	...	...	...	...	78
Unfit houses Closed	...	...	...	...	...	3
Unfit houses represented during 1964						
Clearance or Compulsory Purchase Orders	...	...	...	...	...	12
Demolition Orders	...	...	...	...	...	4
Closing Orders	...	...	...	...	...	—
New dwellings erected during 1964						
Council	...	...	...	...	...	66
Private	...	...	...	...	...	280

Rent Act, 1957, Certificates of Disrepair

Number of applications for certificates	...	...	...	10
Number of decisions not to issue certificates	...	...		—
Number of decisions to issue certificates				
(a) in respect of some, but not all defects	...	...		3
(b) in respect of all defects	...	...	...	7
Number of undertakings given by landlords	...	...		8
Number of undertakings refused by local authority			...	—
Number of certificates issued	...	...	...	—

Applications for Cancellation of Certificates

Applications by landlords to local authority for cancellation of certificates	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Objections by tenants to cancellation of certificates				...			—
Decisions by local authority to cancel in spite of tenants' objections	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Certificates cancelled by local authority	...	...	...				—

Improvement Grants

Twenty-seven standard and two discretionary grants were approved during 1964. These were for the provision of standard amenities or the construction of bathrooms. The total amount paid in grants during 1964 for completed improvements totalled £7,079.

Nearly all the applications continue to come from owner/occupiers of dwellings and improvements such as providing a house with a bath, hot water supply, washbasin, internal W.C. and food store remain unpopular with owners of property despite the additional rent that can be charged for improvement work.

Common Lodging Houses

There are no common lodging houses in the area.

Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960

The following caravan sites have site licences under this Act.

	<i>Residential</i> <i>Caravans</i>	<i>Holiday</i> <i>Caravans</i>
Land at Penton Hook, Staines	22	—
Harris' Boatyard, Laleham	6	18
Land at Moor Farm, Stanwell Moor ...	1	—
Caretaker Sites at Gravel Pits	4	—

In addition the Council has provided a large holiday caravan and camping site at Laleham on the banks of the River Thames. This is open from May to September each year and is under the control of the Camping Club of Great Britain.

Complaints

During the year 554 complaints on all kinds of subjects were received; all were investigated and any necessary action taken.

Clean Air Act 1956

Following consideration of Ministry of Housing and Local Government Circular 69/63, the Council reviewed the scale of grants to owners and occupiers of dwellings for the conversion of grates when a smoke control order is to be brought into operation.

In general the new grants marked a departure from the usual replacement of the ordinary coal burning stool bottom grate by a coke burning inset grate fitted with gas ignition. Instead, because of probable changes in the fuel position, grants became available for a wider range of appliances such as gas room heaters, electric convector heaters, and free-standing and inset types of solid fuel stoves. The increased grants made conversion of grates more attractive and it is likely there will be a higher proportion of householders availing themselves of grants than in smoke control areas declared prior to 1964.

Gas room heaters and electric storage heaters were a popular choice as replacements for a coal burning grate and where solid fuel was preferred many chose free-standing stoves.

Since the Council decided in 1958 on the making of Smoke Control Orders to deal with domestic smoke it has been possible to deal with one sizeable area each year and it is hoped the programme will be completed by 1970.

Details of Smoke Control Areas

	<i>Area in Acres</i>	<i>No. of Dwellings</i>	<i>Date of Operation</i>
No. 1	1,824	2,325	1.12.60.
2	2,990	675	1.12.62.
3	518	1,415	1.6.63.
4	126	424	1.7.64.
5	341	1,620	1.7.65.
6	408	2,400	1.6.66.
	<hr/> 6,207 <hr/>	<hr/> 8,859 <hr/>	

Legal Proceedings

A summons was issued against a pig farmer for causing serious nuisance from smoke from a pig food boiler.

The summons was withdrawn on the business being discontinued and the boiler dismantled.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

					<i>No. of premises</i>	<i>No. of inspections</i>
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	4	13
Bakers and Confectioners	...	...	...	...	19	74
Butchers Shops	...	...	...	...	30	191
Beer Bottler	...	...	...	...	1	4
Clubs	...	...	...	...	18	3
Dairies	...	...	...	...	4	26
Food Manufacturers	...	...	...	...	3	30
Fish Shops (wet and fried fish)	...	...	...	...	13	49
Food Hawkers	...	...	...	...	9	51
Grocers	...	...	...	...	75	231
Greengrocers	...	...	...	...	35	74
Mineral Water Manufacturers	...	...	...	...	1	5
Public Houses	...	...	...	...	43	41
Restaurants, Cafes and Snack Bars	...	...	...	...	41	173
School Kitchens	...	...	...	...	12	19
Slaughterhouses	...	...	...	...	1	490
Wholesale Warehouses	...	...	...	...	6	48
Works Canteens	...	...	...	...	14	22
Supermarkets	...	...	...	...	4	176
					333	1,720

Food and Drugs Administration

As the final population figure for the 1961 Census published by the Ministry of Health showed Staines Urban District to have a population in excess of 40,000, the Council became the Food and Drugs Authority for the District on 1st April 1964. This was formerly the responsibility of the Middlesex County Council, the duties being undertaken by the County Public Control Department. All your Inspectors hold the Certificate of the Royal Society of Health as Inspector of Meat and Other Foods.

The duties under this and associated legislation include the sampling of all kinds of food and drugs, both formally and informally, and submitting the samples for analysis and examination to a public analyst appointed by the Council for this purpose. The total number of samples of food and drugs submitted to the public analyst was 60. All the samples were informal and except where mentioned, all were genuine.

Milk

Practically all of the milk supplied to the area is bulked milk bottled by two large dairy firms, both of whom distribute milk over a large area. Milk is rarely adulterated today and it was therefore not considered necessary to take a larger number of samples because milk from the same suppliers is also being sampled in adjoining areas.

6 samples of fresh milk, 3 samples of tinned milk and 4 samples of cream were submitted and were all found to be genuine.

Meat and Meat Products

8 samples of sausages, 7 of which had been manufactured on the premises, were submitted for analysis. One sample was found to contain 200 p.p.m. of sulphur dioxide as an added preservative although a notice was not exhibited in the shop in accordance with the requirements of the Preservatives in Food Regulations, 1962. A warning was given to the butcher concerned.

Drugs

12 samples of proprietary drugs and medicines were submitted and reported as genuine. To remove possible misunderstandings and allay any fears that a pharmacist may have about the legality of selling drugs, to which Parts I and III of the Dangerous Drugs Act, 1951, apply, to a sampling officer, a system of receipts for drug purchases was adopted in accordance with a Ministry of Health recommendation.

Other Foods

27 samples of various foods and fruit drinks were submitted for analysis. 25 of these were genuine and satisfactory. A sample of imported unsalted butter was found to be rancid and contaminated with green mould growth of a species of penicillium. This was taken up with the distributors and as a result the whole consignment was withdrawn from the retail market.

A sample of "middle cut in natural oil" was reported as not salmon although the term "Middlecut" is often used in connection with canned salmon. There was an addition of 0.4% salt. The label did not specify the common or usual name of the food nor the appropriate designation of the ingredients and was there-

fore an infringement of the Labelling of Food Order, 1953. The importers confirmed that no further purchase of this commodity would be made unless the proper labelling was adopted. It was agreed that it was a misleading description of the food.

Labelling of Food Order, 1953

This Order requires pre-packed food to be marked with the name and address or with the registered trademark of the packer or labeller. It also requires such food to be labelled with its common or usual name (if any) and in the case of a compounded food with the names of the ingredients in descending order or proportion of weight. It also controls the manner in which the presence of vitamins and minerals is disclosed, and prescribes specific labelling of certain foods. Frequent checks on pre-packed foods are made during routine visits to food premises. Cautions were given to two supermarkets, one shop and a market stall holder for selling unlabelled tinned foods contrary to the requirement of this Order.

Merchandise Marks Acts, 1887-1953

The majority of inspection work carried out under the provisions of these Acts relates to ensuring that the requirements of the various Marking Orders made under the provisions of the Act of 1926 are complied with. These Orders apply to the marking of the country of origin on imported foodstuffs, principally meat, apples, tomatoes, dried fruits, bacon, ham, poultry, butter and honey upon sale or exposure for sale. Attention is given to these requirements during routine visits to food premises and stall holders. All the infringements detected were of a minor nature and were dealt with by verbal warnings.

Food Complaints

43 complaints concerning purchases of various articles of food were made to the Department during the year. 26 complaints alleged unfitness of the food and 17 complaints concerned foreign bodies or extraneous matter in the food. After investigation of the circumstances of each complaint, 38 were dealt with satisfactorily by informal action and 5 resulted in proceedings being taken against the firms responsible.

Legal Proceedings

A Staines dairy was fined £10 with 10 guineas costs for the sale of milk in a dirty bottle. A subsequent case against the firm for a similar offence was dismissed.

The Ashford branch of a well-known firm of grocers was fined £25 with 5 guineas costs for the sale of a mouldy pork pie.

A Staines baker was fined £10 with 10 guineas costs for the sale of a loaf containing a woodlouse. A further case against the same baker for the sale of a loaf containing mouse droppings resulted in a fine of £20 with 10 guineas costs.

A supermarket was fined £20 with 10 guineas costs for failure to comply with the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations by keeping the yard in an insanitary condition.

Food Hygiene Regulations

<i>Improvements effected at Food Premises</i>	<i>No. of Premises</i>
Cleanliness improved	32
Equipment improved, protective screens provided ...	17
Hot water supplies provided or improved	1
Repair and redecoration of premises	32

The following foods were surrendered in food premises as being unfit for human consumption.

7,064 cans, jars, bottles and packets of various foods	408 lbs. bacon
1,296 pkts. frozen foods	51 lbs. sausages
430 lbs. beef	138 gross porkburgers
501 lbs. lamb	109 chickens
514 lbs. pork	5 stones fish
1,161 lbs. offal, various	500 packets cheese
1,047 lbs. cooked meats, various	56 lbs. milk powder
158 lbs. corned beef	1 cask orange pulp.

Middlesex County Council Act 1950, S.11

Registration of Hawkers of Food

	<i>Ice Cream</i>	<i>Fruit and Vegetables</i>	<i>Other Foods</i>
Registered during 1964 ...	—	1	1
Total registered at 31.12.64	15	20	10

Meat Inspection at Slaughterhouses

One slaughterhouse is licensed.

The following table shows the number of animals killed, the carcasses inspected and details of carcasses condemned. The total number of animals killed was 10,622.

There was an increase of some 4,000 carcasses slaughtered over 1963, these were mainly calves. Slaughtering is normally carried out during the day and early evening but there is also some slaughtering on Saturdays or Sundays. All carcasses were inspected.

Carcases and Offal Inspected and Condemned in whole or in part

	<i>Cattle Excluding Cows</i>	<i>Cows</i>	<i>Calves</i>	<i>Sheep and Lambs</i>	<i>Pigs</i>	<i>Horses</i>
Number killed (if known) ...	582	16	4726	2264	3034	—
Number inspected ...	582	16	4726	2264	3034	—
<i>All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci:</i>						
Whole carcasses condemned ...	1	—	5	2	2	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	65	7	20	26	66	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci ...	11.34	43.75	0.53	1.24	2.24	—
<i>Tuberculosis only:</i>						
Whole carcasses condemned ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	—	—	—	—	37	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis ...	—	—	—	—	1.22	—
<i>Cysticercosis:</i>						
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	6	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration ...	4	—	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned ...	—	—	—	—	—	—

Condemned meat and food is dealt with at a fat recovery plant in the area where it is processed for industrial use.

Middlesex County Council Acts 1944/1950, Section 222

Deposit of Refuse

Seven worked-out wet gravel pits are being filled with refuse, other than domestic refuse, under consents given by the Council under the provisions of the Middlesex County Council Acts. The back-filling of these pits is undertaken by the land owners or recognised tipping contractors. Every attempt is made to secure restoration of the land during the process. Control and supervision is necessary to ensure that the conditions imposed by the Council on the deposit of refuse are observed and to prevent nuisance due to the water in the pits becoming foul and offensive. Analyses of the water showing free oxygen content are submitted to the Council periodically. At one of the tips, owing to lack of daily control and the deposit of prohibited materials by the contractor, tipping operations were stopped. The consent to tip was withdrawn and a new consent was granted by the Council to another contractor.

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949

Under the provisions of this Act the Council offers a service to householders and others for destruction of rats and mice. The services of the Department are much used by the public and by owners of factories and business premises. No charge is made in the case of domestic premises. Most of the infestations are of a minor character.

A treatment of the Council's sewers, when 109 (10%) of the manholes on the system were poison baited, showed there were only six complete and three partial takes of the poison bait.

This poison baiting gave a similar result to treatments in previous years and shows the sewers are only lightly infested with rats. 486 complaints of infestation by rats or mice were dealt with. 579 premises were treated for rat infestation and 75 for infestation by mice. 71 business premises received treatment. The total number of visits including surveys was 2,973.

Factories Act, 1961

1—INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health.

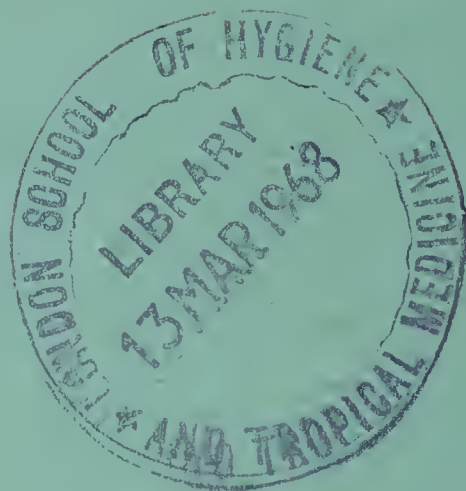
Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	6	1	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	243	82	14	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	20	21	—	—
TOTAL ...	269	104	14	—

2—Cases in which DEFECTS were found.

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2)	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient ...	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective ...	11	8	—	5	—
(c) Not separate for sexes ...	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL ...	11	8	—	5	—

OUTWORK

Nature of Work	Section 110			Section 111		
	No. of out-workers in August list required by Section 110 (1) (c)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of work in un-wholesome premises	Notices served	Prosecutions
Wearing apparel— Making, etc.	16	—	—	—	—	—



Printed by
Charles Burrell & Son
Clay Corner, Chertsey, Surrey
and at Littlehampton, Sussex